

Handouts for Pito mata – realising potential

CORE
EDUCATION
Tātai Aho Rau



Handout 1:

A proposed kaupapa Māori framework for giftedness based on the strands of *Te Whāriki*

Lesley Rameka and Brenda Soutar (December 10, 2021)

Te Whāriki is the foundation for this framework. It utilises the five strands – Mana Atua, Mana Whenua, Mana Tangata, Mana Reo, Mana Aotūroa as the basis for Māori understandings of giftedness.

Mana atua Children understand their own mana atuaanga – uniqueness and spiritual connectedness

- Mokopuna demonstrate an exceptional knowing that is inherent, passed down through generations. An example of this might be initiating an appropriate karakia to uphold a ritual.
- Mokopuna express their inherent knowings when they recognise the importance of protecting and nurturing the spiritual well-being of others and act accordingly.
- Mokopuna stand strong as a reflection of their ancestors, enhancing their own mana and the mana of the people, places and things they encounter.

Mana whenua Children's relationship to Papatūānuku is based on whakapapa, respect and aroha

- Mokopuna are intensely interested in understanding the why, who, when and where of rituals, protocols, expectations, tikanga, processes, procedures and ways of knowing, being and doing.
- Mokopuna are deeply connected to the land and uphold the values that underpin reciprocal relationships and responsibilities associated with the land, for example, kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga.
- Mokopuna assert appropriate tikanga be upheld based on their knowings, connectedness and whakapapa.



Mana tangata Children have a strong sense of themselves as a link between past, present, and future

- Mokopuna are a reflection of their ancestors, kaitiaki who take their responsibility to uphold the mana of the collective seriously.
- Mokopuna have a strong sense of the hopes of their tūpuna and expectations of their whānau, consistently striving to realise their aspirations.
- The values of aroha and manaakitanga are paramount in the relationships mokopuna develop and visible in the way they treat others.

Mana reo Through te reo Māori children's identity, belonging, and wellbeing are enhanced

- Mokopuna are secure in their identity, belonging and wellbeing, standing strong as kaitiaki who champion the use of te reo Māori.
- As kaitiaki who care for and maintain oral traditions, mokopuna advance their understandings to communicate and show exceptional ability to perform and/or lead performances.
- Mokopuna realise the heights of their creative potential, utilising innovation to express themselves in te reo Māori.

Mana aotūroa Children see themselves as explorers, able to connect with and care for their own and wider worlds

- Mokopuna are a reflection of their ancestors and view themselves as competent explorers, capable of expressing their advanced knowledge, understandings, and skills within the context of their worlds.
- Mokopuna are exceptionally imaginative, creative, and inventive in the ways they express themselves and their worlds.
- Mokopuna uphold their role as kaitiaki with integrity and empathy. Their responsibility to care for and protect te ao Māori for future generations is fundamental to the way in which they carry themselves.

